

SENATE RESOLUTION 703—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2008 AS “NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS MONTH”, TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SMITH, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. REID, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 703

Whereas methamphetamine, an easily manufactured drug of the amphetamine group, is a powerful and addictive central nervous system stimulant with long-lasting effects;

Whereas the National Association of Counties reported in 2007 that methamphetamine is the number 1 illegal drug problem for 47 percent of the counties in the United States, a higher percentage than that of any other drug;

Whereas 4 out of 5 county sheriffs report that, while local methamphetamine production is down, methamphetamine abuse is not (the National Association of Counties found that ½ of the Nation's sheriffs report abuse of the drug has stayed the same and nearly ⅓ say that it has increased);

Whereas the highest rates of methamphetamine use among all ethnic groups occur within Native American communities;

Whereas the consequence of methamphetamine use by many young adults in the Native American community has been death, including methamphetamine-related suicides;

Whereas sheriffs report increases in crime directly related to the presence of methamphetamine in their communities;

Whereas most illegal methamphetamine available in the United States is produced in large clandestine laboratories in Mexico and smuggled into this country;

Whereas methamphetamine labs are costly to clean up in that every pound of methamphetamine produced can yield up to 5 pounds of toxic waste, representing a public danger to adults and children;

Whereas the profile of methamphetamine users is changing, as ¾ of the Nation's sheriffs report increased methamphetamine use by women and ½ of the Nation's sheriffs report increased use by teens;

Whereas, in surveys on the abuse of methamphetamine among teens, many of the respondents said that the drug was easy to get and believed there is little risk in trying it;

Whereas other National Association of Counties surveys have shown that methamphetamine also places significant burdens on local social service and health care resources, increasing out-of-home placements for children, sending more people to public hospital emergency rooms than any other drug, and producing an ever-growing need for methamphetamine treatment programs; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Methamphetamine Awareness month would increase awareness of methamphetamine and educate the public on effective ways to help prevent methamphetamine use at the Federal, State, and local levels: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2008 as “National Methamphetamine Awareness Month”

to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe National Methamphetamine Awareness Month with appropriate educational programs and outreach activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 704—CONGRATULATING THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TEAMS ON THEIR SUCCESS IN THE 2008 SUMMER OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES AND SUPPORTING THE SELECTION OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, AS THE SITE OF THE 2016 SUMMER OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES.

Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. OBAMA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 704

Whereas the 2008 Summer Olympic Games were conducted in Beijing, China, from August 8 to August 24, 2008;

Whereas 10,500 athletes from 204 countries participated in 302 events in 28 sports and inspired people around the world with their dedication, discipline, athletic achievement, and spirit of fair play, representing the best traditions of Olympic competition;

Whereas 596 men and women represented the United States in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games as members of the United States Olympic Team;

Whereas those United States Olympians competed in 27 sports and continued the great legacy of athleticism and sportsmanship that has characterized the history of United States Olympic competition;

Whereas, in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, the United States sustained and increased its clear dominance as the most successful country in the history of the Olympic Games;

Whereas athletes from the United States won more medals in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games than athletes from any other country;

Whereas swimmer Michael Phelps of Maryland earned recognition as one of the greatest athletes of all time by winning an extraordinary 8 gold medals in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games to surpass the previous single-year record of 7 Olympic gold medals by Mark Spitz, also a swimmer from the United States;

Whereas Michael Phelps now also holds the record for the most Olympic gold medals ever won by a single athlete, with a remarkable 14 gold medals;

Whereas, in the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, the United States demonstrated its continued preeminence in team sports, with the men's and women's basketball teams, the men's volleyball team, the women's soccer team, and the men's and women's 4x400-meter relay teams winning gold medals;

Whereas more than 200 athletes from the United States competed in 18 sports on behalf of the United States in the 2008 Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing, China, from September 6 to September 17, 2008;

Whereas the United States Paralympic Team earned 99 medals, including 36 gold medals, reminding the world that physical challenges are no limit to human achievement;

Whereas United States Army First Lieutenant Melissa Stockwell, who lost her left leg to a roadside bomb in Baghdad in 2004, became the first veteran of the war in Iraq to

compete in the Paralympic Games when she swam in the women's 100-meter butterfly, 100-meter freestyle, and 400-meter freestyle;

Whereas the people of the United States stand united in respect and admiration for the members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams, and the Teams' athletic accomplishments, sportsmanship, and dedication to excellence;

Whereas the many accomplishments of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many others, including the United States Olympic Committee and the many administrators, coaches, and family members who provided critical support for the athletes;

Whereas the Olympic movement celebrates competition, fair play, and the pursuit of dreams;

Whereas the United States and, in particular, the city of Chicago, Illinois, celebrate those same ideals; and

Whereas Chicago has never hosted the Olympic and Paralympic Games: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends congratulations for a job well done to all members of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams and to everyone who supported the Teams' efforts at the 2008 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games; and

(2) encourages the International Olympic Committee to choose Chicago, Illinois, as the site of the 2016 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games and offers support and cooperation in ensuring successful Olympic and Paralympic Games in Chicago in 2016.

SENATE RESOLUTION 705—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE PRESERVATION OF RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL SITES AND CONDEMNING INSTANCES IN WHICH SUCH SITES ARE DESECRATED

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 705

Whereas the Senate is committed to protecting and preserving the cultural heritage of all national, religious, and ethnic groups, including cemeteries and other sacred sites of those groups in the United States and abroad;

Whereas the Holocaust annihilated much of the Jewish population of Europe, and in many countries in Europe, no Jewish people were left to care for the communal properties that represent a historic culture in the area and constitute an integral part of the Jewish religion;

Whereas the Holocaust and 45 years of atheistic, Communist governments in Eastern Europe created a critical need that led to the establishment of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad under section 1303 of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 469j);

Whereas the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad is tasked with identifying and reporting on cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings in Eastern and Central Europe that are associated with the heritage of United States citizens and obtaining assurances from the governments in those regions that those properties will be protected and preserved;

Whereas many of those properties continue to be endangered and governments and communities continue to face fundamental and compelling challenges in the preservation of those properties;

Whereas experts within Lithuania and from around the world believe that the cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, is an historic Jewish cemetery and is sacred ground;

Whereas, in 2005, municipal authorities in Vilnius, Lithuania, approved the construction of an apartment building at the outer edge of that Jewish cemetery;

Whereas that cemetery dates to the 15th century and is known by scholars in Lithuania and around the world as the first Jewish cemetery in Vilnius;

Whereas it is believed that, before the Government closed the cemetery in the early 1800s, more than 50,000 Jews were buried there;

Whereas, in December 2006, several months after experts and groups from around the world expressed grave concern about the desecration of the Snipiskes cemetery, the Prime Minister of Lithuania established a working group to define the cemetery's borders and to consider how to memorialize it;

Whereas, in 2007, before the conclusion of the working group, authorities of the Government of Lithuania approved additional construction on the disputed ground;

Whereas, in May 2007, the working group, consisting of historians, scientists, and rabbis from Lithuania and around the world, called for a halt in construction activity until completion of a site study to be undertaken using ground-penetrating radar;

Whereas, on September 3, 2008, a group commissioned by the Government of Lithuania to study the area using the ground-penetrating radar concluded that the boundaries of the cemetery included the disputed apartment buildings;

Whereas the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania released a statement dismissing the study as inconclusive;

Whereas the fact that the Government of Lithuania has allowed construction to take place at the Jewish cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, and that desecration of sacred sites continues into the 21st century, is an affront to the international Jewish community, the people of the United States, and everyone who values religious freedom and ethnic diversity around the world;

Whereas the United States and Lithuania signed the Agreement on the Protection and Preservation of Certain Cultural Properties on October 15, 2002;

Whereas Article 1 of the Agreement states, "Each Party will take appropriate steps to protect and preserve the cultural heritage of all national, religious or ethnic groups . . . who reside or resided in its territory and were victims of genocide in its territory during the Second World War. The term 'cultural heritage' for purposes of this Agreement means . . . cemeteries and memorials to the dead. . . .";

Whereas cemeteries are sacred sites and are established to remain undisturbed in perpetuity, and the sanctity of a cemetery is determined by the bodies buried in the cemetery; and

Whereas, while vandalism of headstones or construction of a commercial building on the site disgraces the cemetery, it does not change its sacred status: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses strongly to the Government of Lithuania that the cemetery located in the Snipiskes area of Vilnius, Lithuania, which is an important part of the cultural

heritage of the Jewish people, should not be further desecrated;

(2) urges the Government of Lithuania to take all the necessary steps to immediately stop and, if necessary, reverse, construction on that cemetery;

(3) reaffirms that constructive bilateral relations between Lithuania and the United States are important to the Governments and citizens of both countries; and

(4) expresses strong support for the work of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad and for the European countries that continue to work to preserve sacred historical sites, despite ongoing challenges.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5692. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 440, providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses.

SA 5693. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska (for Mr. DORGAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 6469, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize increased Federal funding for the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network.

SA 5694. Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska (for Mrs. LINCOLN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 616, reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad.

SA 5695. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. LEVIN to the bill H.R. 7222, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5692. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 440, providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses; as follows:

On page 1, line 3, strike "from Monday, September 29, 2008, through Friday, October 3, 2008,"

On page 2, line 2, strike "that" and all that follows through line 9 and insert:

"the Senate may adjourn or recess at any time from Thursday, October 2, 2008, through January 3, 2009, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee until such time as specified in that motion, but not beyond noon on January 3, 2009, and it may reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution."

On page 2, line 15, strike "time" and insert "respective time".

SA 5693. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. DORGAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 6469, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize increased Federal funding for the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Stephanie Tubbs Jones Organ Transplant Authorization Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK.

Section 372(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274(a)) is amended by striking "\$2,000,000" and inserting "\$7,000,000".

SEC. 3. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall request that the Executive Director of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network submit to Congress, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, a report that shall include—

(1) the identity of transplant programs that have become inactive or have closed since the heart allocation policy change of 2006;

(2) the distance to the next closest operational heart transplant center from such inactivated or closed programs and an evaluation of whether or not access to care has been reduced to the population previously serviced by such inactive or closed program;

(3) the number of patients with rural zip codes that received transplants after the heart allocation policy change of 2006 as compared with the number of such patients that received such transplants prior to such heart allocation policy change;

(4) a comparison of the number of transplants performed, the mortality rate for individuals on the transplant waiting lists, and the post-transplant survival rate nationally and by region prior to and after the heart allocation policy change of 2006; and

(5) specifically with respect to allosensitized patients, a comparison of the number of heart transplants performed, the mortality rate for individuals on the heart transplant waiting lists, and the post heart transplant survival rate nationally and by region prior to and after the heart allocation policy change of 2006.

(b) LIMITATION ON FUNDING.—The increase provided for in the amendment made by section 2 shall not apply with respect to contracts entered into under section 372(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274(a)) after the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act if the Executive Director of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network fails to submit the report under subsection (a).

SA 5694. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mrs. LINCOLN) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 616, reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad; as follows:

On page 3, line 4, strike "greater" and insert "more effective".

On page 3, lines 6 and 7, strike "maternal health as a human right" and insert "that the right to access quality and affordable health care is essential to improving maternal health".

SA 5695. Mr. LEVIN (for Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. LEVIN to the bill H.R. 7222, to extend the Andean Trade Preference Act, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 208 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3206) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 208. TERMINATION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—No duty-free treatment or other preferential treatment extended to beneficiary countries under this title shall—

"(1) remain in effect with respect to Colombia or Peru after December 31, 2009;

"(2) remain in effect with respect to Ecuador after June 30, 2009, except that duty-free